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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4649
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 0428
RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN PRIORITY 0346
RUEHSW/AMEMBASSY BERN PRIORITY 0282
RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY 0083
RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY 0526
RUEHDR/AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY 5576
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 0357
RUEHJA/AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY 0052
RUEHKU/AMEMBASSY KUWAIT PRIORITY 0450
RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA PRIORITY 0063
RUEHLJ/AMEMBASSY LJUBLJANA PRIORITY 0003
RUEHLS/AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY 0594
RUEHML/AMEMBASSY MANILA PRIORITY 0074
RUEHME/AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY 0003
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 0383
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 0187
RUEHNM/AMEMBASSY NIAMEY PRIORITY 0614
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0719
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 2360
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 6228
RUEHSM/AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY 1418
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 1212
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY 0506
RUEHTU/AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY 0200
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0010

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 000484

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IO/EDA FOR SKOTOK

E.O. 12958: DECL: 02/16/2017
TAGS: [WFP](#) [EAID](#) [AORC](#)
SUBJECT: DEMARCHE ON WFP EXECUTIVE BOARD SELECTION

REF: STATE 017145

Classified By: PE COUNSELOR KEVIN SULLIVAN FOR REASONS 1.4(b) and (d).

11. (C) Pol/Econ Counselor and PolOff delivered reftel demarche to Dr. Abdulkadir Risku and Eyob Tekaliyn of the MFA's International Organizations Directorate on February 16th. PE Counselor emphasized the important stake that Ethiopia, a large recipient of WFP assistance, had in maintaining strong leadership within the organization.

12. (C) Abdulkadir indicated that the GOE was unlikely to object initially to Zimbabwe's position as a consensus candidate. However, he went on to say that he understood the USG's concern regarding the Zimbabwean candidate, and the importance of good leadership in the WFP. Abdulkadir further indicated that he would bring senior MFA officials up to speed on the matter. He was hopeful that the GOE could help the USG find an alternative outcome regarding the electoral process. Abdulkadir mentioned that representatives from the Dutch and Canadian embassies had just demarched him on the same subject.

13. (U) Abdulkadir also underscored the GOE's interest in the WFP-sponsored private drought insurance program in which it is participating in on a pilot-basis. Approval/continuing support for the program is also likely to come up during WFP meetings the week of Feb. 19, and Abdulkadir asked for continued USG support. He said that Norway, the Netherlands and Germany had expressed some reservations about funding mechanisms in a previous WFP board meeting. The duration of the project is 2 years.

